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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/632,669	08/01/2003	Greg T. Mrozek	H0005324	2691

7590 09/01/2004

Honeywell International Inc.
Patent Services Group
101 Columbia Road
Morristown, NJ 07962

EXAMINER

JOYCE, HAROLD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3749

DATE MAILED: 09/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/632,669

Applicant(s)

MROZEK ET AL.

Examiner

Harold Joyce

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 June 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2162004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The indicated allowability of claims 8, 14, 16 and 18-20 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to the Japanese patent ('660). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 2, 8, 14, 18-20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by the Japanese patent ('660).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 2, 8, 13, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker in view of the Japanese patent ('660). Parker discloses the claimed invention except it is not clear whether the stepping motor is directly coupled to the vane. The Japanese patent ('660) teaches that it is known to couple a stepping motor directly to a valve as set forth in the Synopsis. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the stepping motor

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of Parker to be directly coupled to the damper, as taught by the Japanese patent ('660) in order to drive the damper from a fully open position to a fully closed position.

6. Claims 3, 4, 9-12, 17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker in view of the Japanese patent ('660) as applied to claims 1, 2, 8, 13, 15 and 16 above, and further in view of Danby. Parker discloses the claimed invention except for the stepper motor having at least 48 steps per revolution. Danby teaches that it is known to provide a stepper motor having 48 counts per complete revolution to open and close a valve as set forth at column 9, line 44 to column 10, line 8. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the stepper motor of Parker to have at least 48 steps per revolution, as taught by Danby in order to open and closed the damper.

7. Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker in view of the Japanese patent ('660) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of McCabe. Parker discloses the claimed invention except for a shaft extending through a hole in the frame directly to the vane and a hub. McCabe teaches that it is known to provide electric power actuated damper with a shaft extending through the frame directly to the vane and a hub as shown at Figures 3 and 4. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the damper of Parker with a shaft extending through the frame directly to the vane and a hub, as taught by McCabe in order to provide a well known means of actuating the vane.

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Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

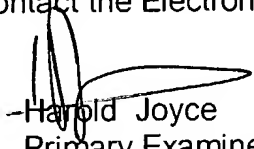
Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harold Joyce whose telephone number is (703) 308-0274. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ira Lazarus can be reached on (703) 308-1935. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Harold Joyce
Primary Examiner
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